

## **Frederick County Sustainability Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**12/17/2014**

**Attendees:** Tom Anderson, David Lange, Ronal Kaltenbaugh, Tim Jones, Joseph Richardson, Annie Jones, Chris Voell, Margie Lance, Chris May, Robert Black, Mike Uecker, Shannon Moore

**Guests:** County Executive Jan Gardner, Suzanne Cliber (OSER), Rich Maranto (Self), Brad Gottschall (Fort Detrick), Daniel Saltzberg (OSER), Lisa ORR (OSER), Janice Wiles (Self)

Welcome – 3 pm

#### **Introductory Comments:**

- The Chair welcomed all attendees and guests, outlined the intent of the meeting and the change to the Agenda to accommodate time for Executive Gardner's visit today.
- The Vice Chair noted that the November Meeting Minutes were approved as amended and will work with Shannon Moore on the documentation of the October Meeting Minutes. The Vice Chair will prepare future Agenda's and Meeting Minutes.
- The Chair briefly discussed the FCSC 2015 goals and his vision for additional actions under the two topics of Waste and Development. Ron K would like to have additional actions on solar energy. Chris V indicated that the FCSC should have an advisory role on Waste and Energy. It was determined that the FCSC could continue to proceed with its two goals, with input from Executive Gardener.

#### **Update on County Government Initiatives (Shannon Moore):**

- The County adopted three goals for 2015
  - Solar and Renewable initiatives
  - Energy Efficiency
  - County Fleet Fuel Reduction
- There is a need to further engage the community (Green Home Initiative is a good example)

#### **2015 Sustainability Plan:**

- Margie Lance indicated that the By-Laws requirement to complete a Sustainability Plan is generic and would like to devote more time to planning ahead. All agreed that we need new direction from Exec. Gardener before going forward. The Sustainability Plan is on hold for now, but the FCSC will keep moving ahead with its goals and objectives.

#### **Subcommittee Reports and Discussions:**

- Ms. Gallagher, President of "No Incinerator Alliance" to be invited to the next FCSC meeting (Chris V. to invite her to Jan. /Feb meeting).
- Joe R. reported on the Organic Waste. Frederick wants to create a model for the State.
  - Compositing is a big education plan

- Need to deal with garbage disposal and multi-family vs. weekly disposal
- Need public stake-holder input without interfering with SWAC initiatives
- Suggested setting up a standing committee (90 days) for solid waste.

- Additional discussions on how Howard Co. is handling waste issues and bottle- bill.
- Additional discussions on grants under new charter government

Bobby Black:

- Reported on his observance of tree planting. He visited PA, OH, and MI to observe their initiatives which were far behind MD.
- Much discussion on street sweeping along RT. 15 and 70 once per month and how this can be avoided
- The cost to plant trees is not cost effective (at 200 trees per acre) where a hundred can die.

Joe Richardson:

- Discussion on pay-as-you-throw
- Discussion on waste policy. Frederick produces 6/pounds per/day per/person. Average for US is 4/pounds per day. Something needs to be done. Frederick needs education. Does Exec. G. wants the FCSC to focus on this vs. Waste Committee?
- FCSC needs to learn from MA, CONN and VT who are leaders on this

FCSC needs more discussion on waste issues in Jan/Feb.

Ron Kaltenbaugh reported on the WEB Site, which is up and running and will give further update in Jan.

- There were no spot recognitions this past month. Tom A .reminded all to look for recognitions on sustainability initiatives.

Shannon Moore reported on the following:

- Frederick Co. is applying for additional grants from MD \$
  - Two more elec. Busses
  - Energy efficient projects for outdoor lighting
  - Green Homes Challenge event
  - Green Neighbor Forum
  - Event at Hood College Jan. 13-14 planning forum on how we use natural resources
  - FC fuel level reduction

#### **Executive Gardner: (Exec. G)**

- Tom Anderson welcomed Executive Gardner
- All Commission Members introduced themselves and gave a brief summary of their experience and objective for being on the FCSC
- Exec. G shared her observation on distribution of solar panels within the County
- Exec. G shared her thoughts on solid waste reduction for the County

- Exec. G described her outlook on social media and encouraged the FCSC take advantage of it
- Exec. G indicated a priority with solar energy and reduction with waste
- Tom A. described the FCSC's priority with waste management
- Exec. G described her priorities with waste and an alternative plan for dealing with it
- Exec. G briefly discussed the Council's role in maintaining legislation for the new charter government
- Exec. G briefly discussed the use of social media and the advantage it has

More to come on the Waste Issues once all Directors are in place.

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#### **Commission Comments;**

Tom A. reported on moving forward with our goals and helping to facilitate the public processes as the new charter government is formed

Annie J. reported on the FCSC By-Laws and waiting until the County Exec. and Council are well in place to sort things out. On hold for now and will be further discussed in Jan. Shannon M. recommended same.

Margie L. indicated that the FCSC needs to be a resource for the social media both on Facebook and the Website

Joe R. indicated that the FCSC needs to function as an education resource

Chris V. made a motion that was seconded by Ron K. and approved by the FCSC

**""In 2015, the FCSC will act as an information and education resource relative to sustainability in energy, waste management and development."**

Tim J. discussed FCSC interest in public events, such as the Building Forum coming up in 2015

#### **Public Comments;**

- Rich M reminded the FCSC to consider a Facebook page which was documented on the Nov. minutes
- Brad G reported that the Solar Field at FT. Detrick has been pushed back

#### **Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.